

# Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus

## WHAT IS MRSA?

Methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) is a type of staph bacteria. Even medicine ordered by your doctor (antibiotics) has a hard time fighting off MRSA.

## WHAT SHOULD I KNOW?

MRSA can spread by contact with sick people or by items that carry the bacteria. Athletes and school students are at higher risk of getting MRSA.

## HOW DO I KNOW IF I HAVE IT?

MRSA looks like a bump or sore on the skin that may be:

- Red
- Swollen
- Painful
- Warm to the touch
- Full of pus or other liquid



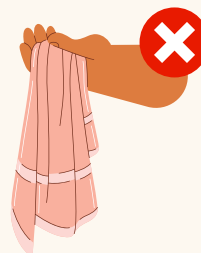
## HOW CAN I PREVENT IT?



Clean your body regularly, especially after exercise.



Wash your hands often with soap and water.



Do not share items, like towels and razors.



Wash your clothes after each use.

## TREATMENT TIPS:

- Please finish all the medicine your doctor ordered for you.
- Keep your wounds clean and covered with dry bandages until healed.



## WHEN TO ASK A DOCTOR?

You should contact your doctor right away if you or a family member think you have a **MRSA infection**. If your MRSA infection is left untreated, it can become very serious.

To learn more, visit the [MRSA webpage](http://www.sdepi.org) at [www.sdepi.org](http://www.sdepi.org).

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